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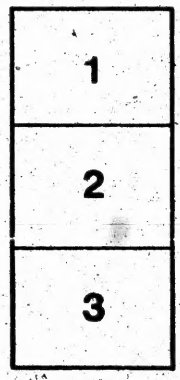


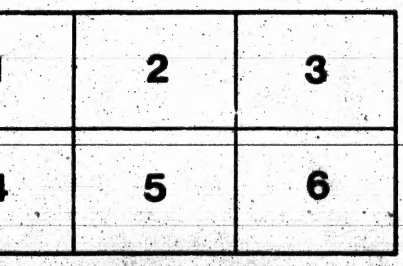

# TYPICAL KEY

TO THE

# APOCALYPSE,

BY

WILLIAM BELL,

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# TYPICAL KEY

TO THE

# APOCALYPSE,

BY

WILLIAM BELL,

LONDON, ONTARIO.

"Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal Life, and they are they which testify of Me."—*Jesus.*

LONDON.
1869.

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# GOD'S THRONE.

## REV. IV.

*TYPE, The Mosaic Sanctuary.*

1. He that Sat upon the Throne was to Look upon as a Jasper and Sardine Stone.
   The Jasper and Sardine were the first and last precious stones in the *Breastplate of Judgment.*—Ex. 28, 17.
2. A Rainbow Like an Emerald.
   The Gold, Blue, Purple, Scarlet, and engraved Gems, on the *Ephod.*—Ex. 28, 6.
3. Twenty-four Seats and Twenty-four Elders.
   The 24 Courses of the *Priesthood.*—1 Chron. 24, 7.
4. The Elders were clothed in White.
   The Pontifical *Robe* of fine linen.—Ex. 28, 39.
5. They had Golden Crowns.
   The Priest's *Mitre,* plated with gold.—Ex. 28, 36.
6. Out of the Throne proceeded Lightning, Thunder and Voices.
   The *God* of Mount Sinai was there.—Ex. 19, 16.
7. Seven Lamps—the Seven Spirits of God.
   The 7 branched golden *Candlestick.*—Ex. 37, 17.
8. A Sea of Glass before the Throne.
   The brazen or *molten Sea* of the Temple.—1 Kings, 7, 23.
9. Four Beasts in the midst and around the Throne.

   Viz.: *The Temple Congregation.*

   1st Beast Like a Lion, - - Court of the *Gentiles*
   2nd Beast Like a Calf, - - - Court of the *Women.*
   3rd Beast Like a Man, - - Court of *Israel.*
   4th Beast Like a Flying Eagle, Court of the *Priests.*
10. The Four Beasts had each Six Wings about Him.

The 24 Courses of Levitical feather-cleft orders, of singers, musicians, guards, collectors, caretakers, porters, &c., which hovered around Temple Worshippers, made 6 *wings* each, about the 4 living creatures. Thus the *Elders* or Aaronites, waited upon God's Throne, and the *Wings* or Levites, attended upon the Congregation, performing ceremonial service.—1 Chron. 24, 20.

11. THE FOUR BEASTS WERE FULL OF EYES BEFORE AND BEHIND.

Their Rites were a memorial of the *Past*, and a type of the *Future*.—Heb. 10, 1.

12. THEY WERE FULL OF EYES WITHIN.

Their Revelation *enlightened* the inward Spiritual Man.—Deut. 6, 6.

13. THEY REST NOT DAY AND NIGHT.

The *Fire* on the Altar, and *Lamp* of olive oil were kept burning day and night.—Ex. 27, 20, Lev. 6, 13.

14. WHEN THE FOUR BEASTS GIVE GLORY, HONOUR, THANKS, &C.

The officiating Priests conducted the services of the 4 divisions of Temple Worshippers, praising God for all His mercies, and casting their crowns of honour at His feet in Holy adoration.—Ex. 28, 29.

15. HE THAT SAT UPON THE THRONE, HAD A BOOK IN HIS HAND, SEALED WITH SEVEN SEALS.

*Christ* said to His Disciples, "It is not for you to know, the Times and the Seasons, which the Father hath kept in His own *power or Hand*."—Acts 1, 7.

16. THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH HATH PREVAILED TO OPEN THE BOOK, AND UNLOOSE THE SEVEN SEALS.

For it is evident, that our Lord sprang from the *Tribe of Judah*.—Heb. 7, 14.

# THE LITTLE BOOK OPEN.

## REV. X.

*TYPE, The Phrophetic Visions of Daniel and Ezekiel in Babylon.*

### A MIGHTY ANGEL.

1. JOHN. A FACE LIKE THE SUN.
DANIEL. A Face like *Lightning*.—10, 6.

2 JOHN. FEET LIKE PILLARS OF FIRE.
DANIEL. Feet like polished *Brass*.—10, 6.

3 JOHN. A VOICE LIKE A ROARING LION.
DANIEL. A Voice like a *Multitude*.—10, 6.

4 JOHN. HE RAISED HIS HANDS TO HEAVEN.
DANIEL. He raised his *Hands* to Heaven.—12, 7.

5 JOHN. HE SWARE BY HIM THAT LIVETH FOREVER AND EVER.
DANIEL. He *Sware* by Him that Liveth forever and ever.—12, 7.

6 JOHN. THERE SHALL BE TIME NO LONGER.
DANIEL. It shall be for a *Time, Times and a Half*.—12, 7.

7 JOHN. THE ANGEL HAD IN HIS HAND A LITTLE BOOK OPEN.
DANIEL. The *Book is Sealed up* until the Time of the end.—12, 4.

### EATING THE BOOK.

8 JOHN. RECEIVED THE LITTLE BOOK FROM THE ANGEL.
EZEKIEL. Received a *Roll or Book* from the Lord.—2, 9.

9 JOHN. EAT THE BOOK WHICH WAS SWEET AS HONEY.
EZEKIEL. Eat the Book which was *Sweet* as Honey.–3,3.

10 JOHN'S BELLY OR BOWELS—figuratively *Affections*, WAS BITTER.
EZEKIEL. Was in Bitterness of *Spirit*.—3, 14.

11 JOHN. WAS SENT TO PROPHECY TO THE SUBJECTS OF MYSTIC BABYLON.—17, 15.
EZEKIEL. Was sent to *Prophecy* to the Slaves of *Ancient Babylon*.—3, 11.

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# THE TWO WITNESSES.

## REV. XI.

*TYPE, The Ministry of Christ.*

1. A REED TO MEASURE THE ALTAR, TEMPLE, AND WORSHIPPERS.

*Christ* applied a measuring *Rod* to the faith and rectitude of Jewish Worshippers, when He announced the Time fulfilled and the Kingdom of God at Hand.—Mark 1, 15.

2. LEAVE OUT THE COURT WITHOUT THE TEMPLE AND MEASURE IT NOT.

*Christ* did not apply the *Rule of faith* to the Gentile Court, where the traders and money exchangers sat, He drove them out with a Scourge of small cords.—John 2, 15.

3. THE HOLY CITY SHALL THEY TREAD UNDER FOOT 42 MONTHS.

The Holy City—the Heavenly Jerusalem founded by Christ, the Meek and Lowly King of Zion, was despised and trodden under foot 3½ years.—Matt. 21, 5.

4. THE TWO WITNESSES.

Two Witnesses being necessary to convict of a capital crime, Num. 35, 30; Moses and Elias—the Law and the Prophets were represented in Christ.—Matt. 5, 17.

5. I WILL GIVE POWER UNTO MY TWO WITNESSES.

John the Baptist came in the Spirit and *Power* of Elijah, Luke 1, 17; But Christ being the faithful and True Witness

of the Gospel Testimony, Rev. 3, 14; had *power* given Him over all flesh.—John 17, 2.

6. THE WITNESSES SHALL PROPHECY 1260 DAYS.

*Christ* being a Prophet and Lawgiver, like unto Moses, Deut. 18, 15; prophecied 1260 days or 3½ years, delivering the lively Oracles of God.—Acts, 7, 38.

7. THE WITNESSES WERE CLOTHED IN SACKCLOTH.

*Christ* grieved for the hardness of the people's hearts, and wept over Jerusalem.—Mark 3, 5.

8. THESE ARE THE TWO OLIVE TREES AND TWO CANDLESTICKS STANDING BEFORE THE GOD OF THE EARTH.

*Christ* fulfilled the Mission of Joshua and Zerubabel, the two anointed ones, or Sons of Oil, Zech. 4, 14; He stood before the God of the Earth, and succeeded in establishing the True Worship of God, by building a Spiritual *Temple* of Lively Stones.—1 Peter 2, 5.

The Seven Candlesticks being *Seven Churches*, Rev. 1, 20; Men do not light a *candle*, and put it under a bushel.—Matt. 5, 15.

9. THE WITNESSES HAD POWER TO SHUT HEAVEN THAT IT RAIN NOT.

*Christ* commanded the sea and winds to be still, and they obeyed Him.—Matt. 8, 27.

10. THE WITNESSES HAD POWER TO TURN WATER TO BLOOD.

*Christ* turned Water into Wine.—John 2, 9.

11. THE WITNESSES HAD POWER TO SMITE THE EARTH WITH ALL PLAGUES.

*Christ* could Heal all manner of Disease.—Luke 17, 12.

12. FIRE PROCEEDED FROM THE MOUTH OF THE WITNESSES.

*Christ.* I am come to send fire on the Earth, and what will I, if it be already kindled.—Luke 12, 49.

13. THE WITNESSES FINISH THEIR TESTIMONY.

*Christ.* Father, I have finished the Work thou gavest me to do.—John 17, 4.

14. THE WITNESSES ARE KILLED BY THE BEAST OF MYSTIC BABYLON FROM THE BOTTOMLESS PIT.

*Christ* was crucified by the Desolating Beast of Abomination of the Apostate Jews.—Matt. 24, 15.

15. THE DEAD BODIES OF THE WITNESSES WERE EXPOSED TO PUBLIC VIEW IN THE STREETS OF THE GREAT CITY.

*Christ* had a watch set over his body at the Sepulchre.—Matt. 27, 65.

16. THE CITY WAS SPIRITUALLY CALLED SODOM AND EGYPT, AND WHERE OUR LORD WAS CRUCIFIED.

*Christ* said Jerusalem should be held guilty of all the righteous blood, that had been shed upon the Earth, from the time of righteous Abel.—Matt. 23, 35.

17. AFTER 3½ DAYS, THE SPIRIT OF LIFE FROM GOD ENTERED THE DEAD BODIES OF THE WITNESSES, AND THEY STOOD ON THEIR FEET.

*Christ.* On the third day, He was quickened by the *Spirit* of Life, from God, and rose from the Dead.—1 Peter 3, 18; Acts 10, 40.

18. GREAT FEAR FELL UPON THOSE WHO SEEN THE WITNESSES RESTORED TO LIFE.

*Christ.* The Guard at the sepulchre shook with *fear* and became as dead men.—Matt. 28, 4.

19. A GREAT VOICE FROM HEAVEN CALLED THE WITNESSES TO COME UP HITHER.

*Christ.* The resurrection Angel's visit was the Heavenly *Call* of a great *Voice*, to a Seat at the right Hand of the Majesty on High.—Matt. 28, 2.

20. THE WITNESSES ASCENDED TO HEAVEN IN A CLOUD.

*Christ* was received out of sight in a *Cloud*.—Acts 1, 9.

21. THE SAME HOUR THERE WAS A GREAT EARTHQUAKE.

A great *Earthquake* occurred at the resurrection of Christ, Matt. 28, 2; and a great *Revolution* on the Day of Pentecost, when the Disciples overcame Judaism, and established the Gospel Kingdom of Grace.—Acts 2.

22. THE TEMPLE WAS OPENED IN HEAVEN, AND THE ARK OF HIS TESTIMONY SEEN.

When the Gospel Temple was opened on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Ghost was *seen* sitting upon each of them, like cloven tongues of fire.—Acts 2, 3.

23. THERE WAS VOICES, THUNDER, LIGHTNING, GREAT HAIL, &c.

These tokens of the Divine presence at Mount Sinai, were manifested on the Day of Pentecost. The miraculous *Voices* in the gift of Tongues,—the *Thundering* sound of the Gospel, and *Lightning* power of the Holy Ghost, upon Mount Zion, at the opening of the Christian Dispensation, confounded the people with wonder and amazement. The Spiritual Elements being all in Commotion, a *great Hail Storm* of Evangelical Truth, direct from Heaven, was poured out upon the multitude, which swept away the refuge for lies, and about 3,000 got converted.—Acts 2; Isaiah 28, 17.

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# A WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN.

## REV. XII.

*TYPE, Deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt.*

1. A WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN.

The Israelites were *invested* with the Light of the *Day-spring* from on High, through the mighty works of Moses.—Ex. 4, 30.

2. SHE HAD THE MOON UNDER HER FEET.

The *Nightwatch* of the Israelites was *superseded*, when the Morning of freedom dawned upon them.—Ex. 12, 42.

3. THE WOMAN HAD A CROWN OF 12 STARS.

The Israelites had a Crown of 12 Ancestral Stars—Sons of the patriarch Jacob.—Ex. 1, 2.

4. THE WOMAN TRAVAILED IN PAIN TO BE DELIVERED.

The Israelites groaned with pain to be delivered from Egyptian bondage.—Ex. 2, 24.

5. THE DRAGON STOOD READY TO DEVOUR THE CHILD.

Pharaoh, King of Egypt, called the Dragon, Isaiah 51, 9; sought to destroy them.—Ex. 14, 8.

6. THE WOMAN BROUGHT FORTH A MAN CHILD.

The first-born of Israel, *Delivered* from the Hand of the destroying Angel, by the passover Blood, was a *Man Child*, Born unto the Lord.—Num. 3, 13.

7. THE CHILD WAS CAUGHT UP TO THE THRONE.

The Levites being chosen for the first-born, Num. 3, 12; were exalted to God's Throne, by having the Administration of His Laws.—Num. 8, 11.

8. THE WOMAN FLED TO THE WILDERNESS.

The Israelites wandered 40 years in the Wilderness, for unbelief.—Num. 14, 34.

9. THERE WAS WAR IN HEAVEN.

The Holy Land of the Israelites was a Type of the Heavenly Canaan.—1 Cor. 10, 11.

10. MICHAEL.

The Captain or Prince of the Lord's Host, He appeared unto Joshua at Jericho, with a drawn sword in his hand.—Josh. 5, 13.

11. MICHAEL AND HIS ANGELS FOUGHT.

Joshua and the Israelites fought under Michael the Prince of the Jewish nation.—Dan. 10, 21.

12. THE DRAGON AND HIS ANGELS FOUGHT.

The Canaanites fought under the Prince of darkness—they sacrificed to Devils.—Deut. 32, 17.

13. THE DEVIL AND HIS ANGELS WERE CAST OUT OF HEAVEN.

Satan with his subjects, the Canaanites, were overthrown and driven out of the Holy Land.—Josh. 11, 23.

14. A LOUD VOICE IN HEAVEN SAYING, NOW IS COME THE KINGDOM OF OUR GOD AND THE POWER OF HIS CHRIST.

The Kingdom of Isreal, which administered the Statutes and ordinances of God, was established in Canaan. Josh. 24, 31.

15. THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES TO THE DEATH.

The Israelites Loved not their Lives to *the Death* required of them. They died to former habits of life, that they might be alive unto God, by keeping the Laws and Commandments given at Mount Sinai.—Josh. 1, 16.

16. THE DRAGON PERSECUTED THE WOMAN IN THE WILDERNESS.

The Devil tempted the Israelites in the Wilderness, to murmur in unbelief. Caleb and Joshua only, got into the promised Land.—Num. 26, 65.

# THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL.

## By Three Angel Messengers, REV. XIV.

*TYPE, The Messages of John the Baptist, Christ, and the Apostles.*

### FIRST ANGEL.

Fear God and give Glory to Him, for the Hour of His Judgment is Come.

*John the Baptist.* Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand,—prepare ye the way of the Lord, and make His paths strait.—Matt. 3, 2.

### SECOND ANGEL.

Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great City.

*Christ.* O, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the Prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not. Behold your house is left unto you desolate, for I say unto you, ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is He that Cometh in the name of the Lord.—Matt. 23, 37.

### THIRD ANGEL.

If any man worship the Beast or his Image, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God.

*Apostles.* For the wrath of God has come upon them—the Jews, to the uttermost.—I Thess. 2, 16.

They shall be tormented with Fire and Brimstone, &c.

*Apostles.* For if we sin willfully, after that we have received the knowledge of the Truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment, and *Fiery* indignation, which shall devour the adversaries, Heb. 10, 26 ; For our God is a consuming *Fire.*—Heb. 12, 29.

THEY SHALL BE TORMENTED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY ANGELS, AND IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LAMB.

*Apostles.* And of some have compassion, making a difference, and others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire. Jude 22.

THESE HAVE NO REST DAY NOR NIGHT, THAT WORSHIP THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE.

*Apostles.* Christ said, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you *rest*, Matt, 11, 29; Hence the Apostle declares, that we which have believed do enter into *Rest.*—Heb. 4, 3.

HERE IS THE PATIENCE OF THE SAINTS; HERE ARE THEY THAT KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD AND THE FAITH OF JESUS.

*Apostles.* Be not slothful, but followers of them who through *faith and patience*, inherit the promises.—Heb. 6, 12.

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# CHRIST'S EVERLASTING REST.

AND I HEARD A VOICE FROM HEAVEN SAYING UNTO ME WRITE BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD.

The earthquake at the death of Christ—the Saints which arose and appeared unto many in the Holy City,—the darkening of the sun, and rending the veil of the Temple, Matt. 27, 45; was a *Voice* from Heaven, declaring Christ who had died, blessed.

FROM HENCEFORTH SAITH THE SPIRIT, YEA.

From henceforth the Spirit performs the work. An angel or *spirit* rolled away the stone from the sepulchre, Matt. 28, 2; Christ was put to death in the flesh and quickened by the *spirit*, 1 Peter, 3, 18; and the second Adam was made a quickening Spirit.—1 Cor. 15. 45.

THAT THEY MAY REST FROM THEIR LABOURS.

*Christ* said, Father I have finished the work thou gavest me to do, John 17, 4; for He that is entered into his rest,

hath ceased from his labours, as God did from His.—Heb. 4, 10.

### And their Works follow them.

*Christ* done many mighty works, He raised Lazarus and others from the dead, and now His works follow Him. He was resurrected from the dead himself.

## THE GOSPEL REST OF THE DISCIPLES.

The rushing mighty wind, on the day of Pentecost, and the cloven tongues of fire that sat upon each of them, Acts 2, 2; was a *Voice* from Heaven, declaring the Disciples, who had died in the Lord, Blessed.—Col. 3, 3.

### From henceforth saith the Spirit, Yea.

From this time forward the Disciples were led by the *spirit*, Gal. 5, 18; lived in the *spirit*, Gal. 5, 25; walked in the *spirit*, Gal. 5, 16; prayed in the *spirit*, Eph. 6, 18; sung in the *spirit*, 1 Cor. 14, 15; sealed by the *spirit*, Eph. 1, 13; and if any had not the *spirit* they were not of Christ.—Rom. 8, 9.

### That they may Rest from their Labours.

The Disciples took the easy yoke of Christ upon them, and found *rest* to their souls, Matt. 11, 28; from the wearisome labour, and heavy burdens of the law.—Luke 16, 46.

### And their Works follow them.

The Disciples raised others from Spiritual death, by casting out evil spirits, Matt. 10, 1; and now their works follow them. They are *quickened* by the Spirit, and resurrected to newness of life themselves.—Rom. 6, 4.

# THE HARVEST AND VINTAGE.

## REV. XIV.

*TYPE, The Gospel Labour of Christ and the Apostles.*

THE WHEAT HARVEST OF CHRIST,—viz.: *The Gospel of the Kingdom.*

1. ONE LIKE THE SON OF MAN SITTING ON A WHITE CLOUD.

A cloud of witnesses being the symbol of a multitude, Heb. 12, 1; the *Divine power of Christ*, sat upon the white cloud of 70 assistants, whom He sent to heal all manner of disease, and cast out devils.—Luke 10, 1.

2. HAVING ON HIS HEAD A GOLDEN CROWN.

*Christ* was the Son of David, Matt. 1, 1; the *King* of Israel, John 1, 49; and *Prince* of life.—Acts 3, 15.

3. IN HIS HAND A SHARP SICKLE.

*Christ* came into Galilee preaching the *Gospel of the Kingdom of God*, saying the time is fulfilled. Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.—Mark 1, 14.

4. AN ANGEL FROM THE TEMPLE IN HEAVEN, CALLED UPON HIM TO REAP.

The Holy Spirit who sat upon Christ like a Dove at His baptism, Matt. 3, 16; was the *Heavenly Messenger* who called upon Him to thrust in His sickle and reap, in the white ripe fields of Judea and Galilee.

When commencing the work, Christ said to His Disciples. Lift up your eyes and see the fields are already white to harvest, John 4, 35; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into his harvest, Matt. 9, 38; for he that gathereth not with me, scattereth abroad.—Matt. 12, 30.

When he had gathered the wheat into the garner, and thoroughly purged His floor with the fan of His hand, committing the chaff to unquenchable fire, Matt. 3, 12; He lifted his eyes to Heaven and reverently said, Father, I have finished the work thou gavest me to do.—John 17, 4.

THE VINTAGE OF THE APOSTLES,—viz.: *The Gospel of the Resurrection.*

5. ANOTHER ANGEL WITH A SHARP SICKLE.

*Peter.* Ye men of Israel hear these words, Jesus of Nazareth, whom ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain, this same Jesus hath God *raised up*, and made Him both Lord and Christ, whereof we are all witnesses.—Acts 2, 22.

6. AN ANGEL FROM THE ALTAR IN HEAVEN, WITH POWER OVER FIRE, CALLED UPON HIM TO REAP.

Christ was called to the wheat harvest at His baptism, when the Holy Spirit *sat* upon Him like a dove, and the Holy Ghost, which *sat* upon the Disciples, at their baptism, on the day of Pentecost, like cloven tongues of *fire*, Acts 2, 3; was the *Heavenly Messenger* that called them to labour in the Vineyard of the Lord,—to thrust in the Gospel sickle and gather the vine of the earth. Three thousand branches of Christ, the true vine, John 15, 5; were harvested on the first day, at the great vintage of Pentecost.—Acts 2, 41.

7. BLOOD CAME OUT OF THE WINE PRESS, EVEN TO THE HORSES BRIDLES, BY THE SPACE OF 1,600 FURLONGS.

The *Blood* of the grapes—the new wine of the Kingdom, miraculously over-flowed from the Gospel wine press at Pentecost. The Heavenly *Spirit* expressed upon that occasion, not only unbridled the tongues of the Disciples, but overwhelmed all who were outside of the Holy City, to the marvellous space of every *Race* and language under Heaven. —Acts 2, 5.

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# THE MILLENNIUM.

## REV. XX.

*TYPE, The Gospel versus Judaism,*

AN ANGEL, viz.: *the Apostles.*

The seven stars, are the angels or ministers of the seven churches, Rev. 1, 20; PETER being chief speaker of the

disciples, and specially commissioned to feed the sheep and lambs of the Lord's flock, furnishes an eligible type or representative, of the *Apostle Messengers* of the gospel.—John, 21, 15.

2. HAVING THE KEY OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT, viz.: *Spiritually Enlightened*

PETER, I will give unto thee, the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in heaven, Matt., 16, 19; the *Spiritual Illumination* of the apostles, by the baptism of the Holy Ghost, on the day of Pentecost, was manifestly declared, to be a key of divine power over *darkness*, in the salvation of souls, Acts, 2; when Peter opened the door into the Christian dispensation, by preaching the first gospel sermon, about 3000 were turned from darkness to light—from the power of Satan unto God.—Acts, 26, 18.

3. AND A GREAT CHAIN IN HIS HAND,—viz.: *the Gospel.*

*Peter* had a wonderful chain in his hand on the day of Pentecost, being an *Evangelical Sermon*, preached in the demonstration of the spirit, and with the power of the Holy Ghost, sent down from heaven, 1 Peter, 1, 12; composed of the connected links of marvellous prophetic events, recorded in gospel History,—the miracles, life, death, and resurrection of Christ.—Acts, 2.

SATAN,—viz: *the Jews.*

I know the blasphemy of them, which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of *Satan*, Rev. 2, 9; Judaism, with its generation of vipers and serpents, Scribes, Pharisees, Hypocrites and whited Sepulchre's, Matt. 23, 37, was an endless source of Apollyon soul destroyers, Rev. 9, 11; His Satanic Majesty's loyal subjects—the Jews, done the works of their *Father the Devil*, who was a liar and murderer from the beginning.—John 8, 44.

5. THE BINDING OF SATAN,—viz.: *The Conquest of Judaism by the Gospel.*

The Jewish Dragon—that great enemy of Christ, who had fallen from grace, being in open rebellion resisted the truth, making war upon the Kingdom of God by beheading John the Baptist, who announced it,—crucifying the Prince

of life [illegible] it, and slaying the army of innocents at Bethlehem to destroy it, Matt. 2, 16; but *Peter* being invested with the keys of heaven, and power to bind upon earth, with the eleven Apostles mighty in faith, HE STOOD UP in defence of their spiritual rights,—the heavenly Jerusalem, and gospel city of the living God, Heb. 12, 22; The old serpent was conquered and wounded, pricked to the heart with the sword of the spirit—the word of God, Eph. 6, 17, made prisoner and effectually bound—not by a fine spun *Thread* of eloquence, but with the great *Chain* of undeniable facts, recorded in the gospel of truth. Thus the persecuting fiend of Judaism was defeated, captured and bound, in the presence of a multitude of witnesses, from every nation under heaven, with the great chain of wonderful events, in the hand of Peter—the gospel testimony.—Acts 2.

6. SATAN CAST INTO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT,—viz.: *The Jews Blinded.*

The incorrigible Sodomites were smote with *blindness*, before they were destroyed, Gen. 19, 11; The hardened Egyptians were imprisoned in *darkness*, before they were overwhelmed in the Red Sea, Ex. 10, 21; The fallen angels were reserved in chains of *darkness* unto judgment, 2 Peter, 2, 4; and the Apostate Jewish Dragon whose eyes were *blinded*, was effectually shut up, in the *darkness* of the abyss, for inevitable punishment.—Rom. 11, 7.

Peter being in possession of the keys of heaven—evangelical primacy, hurled the Jewish fiend—that deicide monster of iniquity, into a dungeon abyss, through the life giving gospel light of the world, and power of the Holy Ghost, verifying the prophecy of Joel, that Judaism,—the moral luminary of the Jews, would be totally eclipsed and *turned into darkness*, Acts 2, 20; by the rising brightness of the sun of righteousness, with healing in his wings, Mat. 4, 2; Thus the Jewish demon, was cast into the bottomless pit of Egyptian darkness, which he felt, Acts 2, 37, by an angel messenger of the heavenly Mount Zion, clothed in the gospel armour of light.—Rom. 13, 12.

7. SATAN SEALED,—viz.: *The rejection of the Jews confirmed by the sure word of prophecy.*

The miraculous manifestation of the spirit, in the *gift of tongues*,—publicly expressed by the preaching of the gospel,

in every language under heaven, confounding with wonder and amasement, the devout Jews from every nation, assembled at Jerusalem,—accompanied by rejoicings with joy unspeakable and full of glory, 1 Peter, 1, 8; closed up and finished the ceremonial testimony of Moses. And when the Jewish serpent,—to whom the vision of all, was a sealed book, Isaiah, 29, 11; mocked and scoffed, at the great Pentecostal work of God, saying, these men are drunk—they are full of new wine, PETER OPENED THE BOOK of the prophet Joel, and from the lively oracles of God, read the decree of Holy Writ, which confirmed and sealed up forever the dark bondage of the dragon.—Acts 2.

Thus Peter overcome the demon of Judaism, by all conquering *faith*, bound and secured him with the bright shining chain of *gospel truth*, cast him into a dungeon, through the heavenly baptism of life-giving *spiritual light*, and sealed his captivity, by a literal fulfillment of the *sure word of prophecy*.

The word of God that proves a savour of life unto life to believers, is a savour of death unto death to the unbelieving, 2 Cor., 2, 16; and the baptism of the Holy Ghost, that moves holy men of God to *speak* as the spirit gives them utterance, Acts 2, 4; Seals up the lips of the ungodly, by giving them a spirit of tormenting fear, 2 Tim. 1, 7; Thus the blaspheming tongue of the Jewish Dragon was bound and sealed up in the silence of darkness, that he should deceive the nations no more with that unruly member, until the thousand years was finished.

## MILLENNIUM—1000 YEARS,—viz.: *The great Day of Gospel Rest.*

*One Day* is with the Lord as 1000 *years*, and 1000 years as one day, 2 Peter, 3, 8; For if Joshua had given them *Rest*, then he would not afterward had spoken of another *Day*, Heb. 4, 8; Take heed therefore brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God, Heb. 3, 12; *To-day* if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart, Heb. 3, 7; for we which have believed, do enter into *Rest*.—Heb. 4, 3.

The Apostles had now fully entered upon the gospel rest, to which Christ had invited all who were weary and heavy laden, Matt. 11, 28; But this rest did not consist in ceasing

from employment—neither temporal nor spiritual, but it consisted in being buried with Christ, by the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and raised up to newness of life, Rom. 6, 4, exemplified in a *quickened faith—livelier hope,—undying* confidence and unwearied diligence, in the cause and service of God. Thus the Apostles had the reality of the 1000 year symbol—a literal *Sabbath day rest.* Their gospel rest with Christ, was glorious.—Isaiah, 11, 10.

9. THE 1,000 YEARS FINISHED, FULFILLED, &C., viz.:—
*When the Mystic Body of Christ, the second Adam, was created, the new works of God were finished, and the gospel Sabbath rest fulfilled.*

Brethren, look ye out among you, seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business, but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.—Acts 6, 3.

No man taketh this honour upon himself to be a Priest of the sanctuary to minister in sacred things, unless called of God, as was Aaron.—Heb. 5, 4. *Peter* was thrice called to the high office of shepherd and pastor of the Lord's flock.—John 21, 15. He was not only called to the sacred trust of the cure of souls, but he was the chosen foundation *Rock* to build the *Church of Christ* upon—the church of the living God, that the gates of hell should not prevail against.—Matt. 16, 18. *The First Church*—The Primitive Church. *The Model Church*—The Prototype Church. *The Mother Church*—The Metropolitan Church. *The Apostolic Church*—The Evangelical Church. *The Militant Church*—The Gospel Millennium Church. *The Mount Zion Church*—The City of the Living God and Heavenly Jerusalem, the Church of the first born whose names were written in Heaven.—Heb. 12, 22. *Peter* had the ineffable honour of creating the MYSTIC BODY OF CHRIST—the Church, and inspiring the organized members of his body, flesh and bones, with the vigour of active life.—Eph. 5, 30. Of forming the first *Elect Lady Church*, breathing into her nostrils the breath of life, and espousing her as a chaste virgin to Christ.—2 Cor. 11, 2. Then was the gospel millennium *fulfilled and finished*, the kingdom of grace established, the church built upon a rock that defied the tempests of persecution, fiery trials and

death to move it; then had the *churches rest* throughout all Judea and Galilee, and Samaria, and were edified, and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost were multiplied.—Acts 9, 31.

10. THE SOULS OF THE BEHEADED, viz.:—*The Leader cut off.*

Wherein few, that is eight *souls* were saved by water.—1 Peter 3, 20. Let every *soul* be subject unto the higher powers.—Rom. 13, 1.

The Apostles were not only a *headless band* through the loss of their leader, but the *chief* man of their society was commanded to be the servant of all.—Matt. 23, 11. This inversion of the ordinary rules of distinction made them literally an *organized body* without any visible head.

Christ having given orders to call no man master.—Matt. 23, 8. Paul calls the attention of erring believers to the true discipline of the church by saying, Let no man glory, for all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours, and ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's.—1 Cor. 3, 22. This company of *revived souls*, without any head at all over them, lived and reigned with Christ 1,000 years.

11. I SAW THRONES, AND THEY SAT UPON THEM.

Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us *kings* and priests unto God. To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever.—Rev. 1, 6.

12. AND JUDGMENT WAS GIVEN UNTO THEM.

For the time is come that *judgment* must begin at the house of God.—1 Peter 4, 17. Then said Peter unto Ananias, why hath *Satan* filled thine heart to lie to the *Holy Ghost*, and to keep back part of the price of the land. While it remained was it not thine own, and after it was sold was it not in thine own power; thou hast not lied unto men, but *unto God*, and Ananias hearing these words fell down and gave up the ghost. To Sapphira he said, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much, and she said

yea, for so much. Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the *Spirit of the Lord.* Behold the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out. Then she fell down straightway at his feet and yielded up the ghost.—Acts 5, 1. He that is spiritual *judgeth* all things, yet He himself is judged of no man.—1 Cor. 2, 15. Thus the souls of the beheaded followers of Christ sat as kings upon thrones, administering the laws and giving judgment in the gospel kingdom of grace.

## SATAN RELEASED.

### 13. Satan Loosed for a Little Season, gathers Gog and Magog to surround the Camp of the Saints.

The *Jews* were the most implacable enemies of the Apostles and Christian Church. The heathen and Gentiles might be converted, but the Jews never. When they would not believe in Christ who went about doing good and healing the sick, they would not be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.—Luke 16, 31. They not only trampled under foot the religion of Christ in their own nation, filling up the measure of their iniquity, but they sent deputies, delegates and emissaries to oppose and circumvent the Apostles among the Gentiles, literally surrounding and besieging the camp of the Saints. They gathered Gog and Magog—*enemies of God*—from the four-quarters of the earth, against the Apostles by false accusations, raising seditious, inciting mobs and riots to get them maltreated and expelled from foreign countries for the purpose of suppressing the work of God.

Christianity being founded upon Moses and the Prophets, its adherents were denounced by the Jews as fanatical schismatics, and apostates from the religion of their people and the fathers. The gospel having originated in Judea, and its author being a Jew, the leading men of the nation execrated christians as incorrigible heretics, propagating dangerous doctrines and innovations, subversive of all existing institutions. Imagining themselves responsible to the world for the seeming revolutionary tendency of the gospel, they considered it an imperative duty—a sacred trust im-

posed upon them—to destroy the religion of Christ from off the face of the earth. Led on by their blind zeal, malignant bigotry, religious hate and intolerance, their whole soul was enlisted in the fiendish work of seeking to annihilate the infant Church of Christ, under the false belief that they were serving God in so doing.

Thus the demon of Judaism gathered Gog and Magog—Gentile enemies of God in Syria, Asia Minor, Greece, and from the universal Roman Empire—to surround and besiege the camp of the Saints to exterminate them.

## THE JUDGMENT.

### 14. Fire from God out of Heaven descends upon Satan's Host.

A fearful retribution of wrath and fiery indignation was poured out upon Jerusalem and the Jewish nation. For the powers that be are ordained of God, Rom. 13, 1; And the Heavens do rule, Dan. 4, 26.

The righteous vengeance of Heaven overtook them in their mad career of wickedness, which consumed and devoured them, the wrath of God *burned* against them in the Councils of great Rome in the Legions and Coharts of the Roman soldiers to their utter destruction by sword, famine and flame. Even in their own bosom the wickedness that *burns as a fire*, burst out in fratricidal strife—glutting their revenge upon each other in blood—slaughtering their brethren in presence of the common enemy, until the unhappy sin-cursed wretches, were consumed from off the land, and not one stone left upon another in Jerusalem, that stronghold of Satan and city of the Great King. Thus the fires of a vindictive justice, overwhelmed and devoured those incorrigible enemies of God.

### 15. Satan cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone—where the Beast and false Prophet are.

The fiendish unbelieving Jew, was driven out of the Holy Land, carried into captivity among all nations, and baptised with afflictions, in a lake of Sodom,—suffering eternal vengeance in wickedness that burneth as fire, among the heathen where the beastly governments of the Gentile dogs, and false Prophets of Idolatry *are*.

16. SATAN SHALL BE TORMENTED DAY AND NIGHT FOREVER AND EVER,—viz.: *Endless captivity and no national restoration of the carnal Jews.*

No one acquainted with the history of the dispersed Jews, but knows to a certainty, that this state of *torment* is literally fulfilled upon them. Those who escaped with their lives from that terrible visitation, were driven out of their country into exile,—sold into slavery,—destroyed by wild beasts in theatres,—compelled to fight as gladiators and kill each other in public shows for the amusement of the populace. They were expelled from nearly every nation under Heaven where they had fled for refuge from their calamity, and their property confiscated when they had any. No country wanted them, and no people would protect them; they were made a hissing and byword among all nations, Deut. 28, 37. The unfortunate vagrant wandering Jew, and it is only in some countries they are tolerated at the present time, and fewer still in which they have any political rights. Tribulation and afflictions have been their portion, and will be day and night forever and ever as nominal Jews.

The only hope towards God, for the unbelieving Jew, being in the fact that he was not made a *castaway* from salvation, which the Apostle Paul so clearly proves in his Epistle to the Romans, 11, 1, by adducing his own case as an instance, that an Israelite would be accepted of the Lord, and have the veil taken off his eyes and heart, if he should repent and exercise faith in Christ.

A national restoration of the Jews is frequently inferred from the *blindness in part* that happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in, Rom. 11, 25; but that event holds out but a slight hope for the unconverted Jew, when it is considered that the closing scenes of the times of the Gentile are significantly marked, by signs of the coming of Christ in the clouds of Heaven, which introduces the resurrection and end of the world, Luke 21, 24; when all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him, and they also—the Jews—that pierced Him, Rev. 1, 7. Nevertheless, according to promise, we expect at His coming that He will send his Angels *and gather the elect*, from the four winds of Heaven, Matt. 1, 24 31; and not a national gathering of the carnal Jews, as some Judaising teachers would have us believe.

There are no promises of restitution within the covers of the Bible for those who are Jews outwardly, for they are no Jews at all, Rom. 2, 28; nor are they the promised seed of Abraham, as heirs of the promises, Gal. 3. 16. The bondwoman and her son that were cast out never returned, Gal. 4, 30; and never can but as penitent prodigals, Luke 15, 18. Thus the apostate fiend of Judaism, must bear his torment day and night forever and ever.

## THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

17. I SAW A GREAT WHITE THRONE,—viz.: *The Gospel Church.*

The congregation of the Israelites was God's Throne, Ex. 17, 16; but their temple being destroyed, and the people dispersed into all nations, the great *White Throne* of God, with the Kingdom and administration of His laws, were transferred to His servants of the Gospel Church, who had washed their robes and made them *white* in the blood of the lamb.—Rev. 1, 5.

18. I SAW THE DEAD SMALL AND GREAT STAND BEFORE GOD,—viz.: *Jew and Gentile dead in sin before the Christian Church.*

The handwriting of Ordinances being abolished, Col. 2, 14; and the partition wall between Jew and Gentile broken down, all people, nations and tongues of the earth, Jew and Gentile, great and small stood before God, in the common equality of the grave, *dead* in their trespasses and sins of unbelief.—Ep. 2, 1.

19. AND THE BOOKS WERE OPENED,—viz.: *The Writings of Moses and the Prophets fulfilled.*

After the resurrection of Christ, he *opened* the Scriptures to his Disciples, by showing them fulfilled in himself, Luke 24, 32; and now again, when the work that He came to do is all finished, the writings of Moses and the Prophets are opened, understood and known to be fulfilled, in the atoning Lamb that was slain,—the Jewish nation broken and dispersed, and the gospel given for a light to the Gentiles.—Isaiah 42, 6.

20. AND ANOTHER BOOK WAS OPENED, WHICH IS THE BOOK OF LIFE,—viz, ; *The Gospel History of the Evangelists fulfilled.*

The Gospel of the *New Testament* is emphatically a Book of Life. It brought life and immortality to light, 2 Tim. 1, 10. It was also opened,—read, understood and known to be fulfilled in the doctrines, miracles, life, death and resurrection of Christ.

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# MILLENNIAL ALLEGORY.

## THE BINDING OF SATAN.

*Peter* was an angel messenger of the Lord, commissioned to feed the sheep and lambs of the flock. He had the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, with power to loose and bind upon earth, and opened the door into the kingdom of grace—the gospel Church of Christ—by preaching the first sermon on the day of Pentecost. He laid hold upon Satan, that old serpent the Jewish dragon, and bound him, not with a fine spun *thread* of eloquence, but with the great chain of marvellous events recorded in gospel history, the miracles, life, death and resurrection of Christ, and cast him into a bottomless pit of Egyptian darkness, which he felt and called upon the brethren for *light* to find a way of escape from his dungeon. But Peter confirmed his dark bondage by affixing the broad seal of Heaven upon him, the *sure* word of prophecy by the mouth of Joel, and other Prophets of the Lord.

### THE GOSPEL MILLENNIUM.

*Peter* and his brethren, a *revived headless band* of Disciples, sat down upon thrones to live and reign with Christ 1,000 years in a Sabbath gospel rest, which was fulfilled and finished by a new creation of the body of Christ—*an organized Church,* formed out of the members of His body, flesh and bones, standing upon the rock Peter, which the gates of hell could not prevail against.

### The Loosing of Satan.

Satan, the persecuting demon of Judaism, was then loosed for a little season, about 30 years, who gathered Gog and Magog—all the Gentile enemies of God—from the four-quarters of the earth, Syria, Asia Minor, Greece, and the universal Roman Empire, inciting them on to surround and besiege the camp of the Saints for the fiendish purpose of exterminating them from off the face of the earth.

### The Punishment of Satan.

The fire of God's wrath, the destroying legions of Rome, fell upon and devoured them. And the Jewish dragon was cast into a lake of fire and brimstone, among the heathen, where Sodomite wickedness burneth as fire, where the beastly government of the Gentile dogs and false Prophets of idolatry *are*, to be tormented and driven from place to place, a hissing and by-word among all nations—the vagrant wandering Jew.

### The General Judgment.

The handwriting of ordinances being abolished, the people and nations of the earth, Jew and Gentile, great and small, stood before God in the common equality of the grave, dead in their trespasses and sins of unbelief. Then the books of Moses and the Prophets were opened, understood, and seen fulfilled in the atoning sacrifice of the Lamb of God, the dispersion of the Jews, and giving the gospel for a light to the Gentiles. And another book—the book of life was opened—the New Testament that brought life and immortality to light. It was opened, read and seen fulfilled in the doctrines, miracles, life, death and resurrection of Christ.

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# THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.

This is the chief corner stone of the Christian religion; for if Christ be not risen, the Apostles are found false witnessess, and believers are yet in their sins. That there was such a person as Christ, must be clear to every one, for all

religious systems, as well as secular governments, must have had founders, whether Jewish, Pagan, Mahometan, or the religious sects of Methodists, Baptists, &c. It is quite as clear that Christ was put to death as a malefactor. This stigma of reproach is acknowledged by Christians. It is also quite as evident, that none of Christ's Disciples or followers were put to death with Him. Whether they eluded capture from cowardice, renounced his cause, or partly both, will be a subject of inquiry.

Without having recourse to well attested historical facts in support of the Resurrection of Christ, we will confine our observations to the internal evidence of the subject, appealing to the reason of every man. That we may do this understandingly, it will be necessary, as a preliminary to our investigations, to inquire into the character and conduct of the Disciples, upon whose testimony the merits of the case chiefly depends.

1st. The Disciples were not vagrant, vicious characters, for their nomadic manner of life gave them such an extensive field to operate in—all over Palestine—that any indulgence in theft, or any other mischievous propensity, would have afforded a much desired opportunity for the rulers to suppress and abolish the ministry of Christ altogether, by causing his speedy arrest, as leader of the band.

2nd. They were not indolent, worthless characters, who get weary and discouraged; nor faithless, capricious men, who get easily offended, leaving one day and returning the next. Some of them were husbands and fathers, and all of them had honest callings to make a livelihood by; but they continued faithful with their Master to the end.

3rd. They were not self-conceited free thinkers; they were governed, in all their intercourse with Christ, by a strict regard to their national religion and faith. In common with other Jews, they expected the Messiah, hence Philip said to Nathaniel, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law and the prophets did write." And when Christ gave Nathaniel a test of his superior knowledge, He confessed at once, and said, "Thou art the King of Israel."

4th. They were not passive, obsequious adherents, submissively yielding up their judgment, or well-founded opinions. They interrogated Christ concerning the mean-

ing and import of His discourses. They deliberated among themselves, carefully considering their own, as well as their Master's, affairs, keeping with vigilance a close scrutiny upon all He said and done. They not only reasoned among themselves, but communed and consulted with others, for they could promptly respond to the inquiry of Christ, with the desired information, concerning what the people thought of Him.

5th. They proved faithful to their religious training and principles to the end. Their private opinions of Christ were governed by the example of Moses, their great prophet. They not only judged Christ by their highest attainments of religious knowledge, and the greatest man in the whole catalogue of their prophets, but their confidence in Him depended altogether upon the successful issue of his mission, like Moses, overcoming all obstacles. James and John requested that they might sit on His right and left hand in the Kingdom. And when Christ spoke of His humiliation and death, at Jerusalem, Peter, their spokesman, rebuked Him, for they had good reason to believe, by the miracles He wrought, that He was the great man He claimed to be, and, like Moses, they expected He would triumph over all His ememies. Hence they very naturally supposed that no such misfortune would befall Him. But when He was arrested, and His apparent impotency discovered, they became ashamed, deserted and denied all knowledge of Him. When they found that He was actually put to death, then all their bright hopes withered and perished, and their feelings found vent in the mournful lament—not for the man, but for the seeming failure of His and their cause. That we trusted it had been He that would have delivered Israel. Thus, the Disciples were honest men, and acted consistently with their religious convictions, in all their intercourse with Christ, and to cap the climax Judas, like a true Jew, sold his Master for gain.

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From the foregoing, it will be seen that the Disciples were not brought up in religious ignorance or heathen blindness, to be deluded by religious false pretences. Their curiosity for marvels and wonders could not have beguiled them, for they were instructed in the mighty works of Moses and the

Prophets, and had intelligence of the exorcising of evil spirits by men of their own nation. At the apprehension and death of Christ, we discover their religious consistency with an extenuation, if not a full justification, from the charge of perfidy or cowardice. They were deeply imbued with the principles of Judaism; it was the guiding star of their life, and the result of Christ's mission, so contrary to their expectations, and so unlike the great Moses, completely prostrated their hopes, and left them a scattered, forlorn company of disheartened men.

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How did the Disciples, then, come to forsake Moses, and give in their adhesion to Christ? When they reposed confidence in Him to redeem Israel, He utterly failed them. What damaging disparagement did they discover in their great Prophet, that they should get disaffected, and prefer the despised Nazarene? Something wonderful must have happened the Disciples, to produce such a great change in their mind. When Christ was in the zenith of his power, and expectation ran high with the Disciples, contending for who should be the greatest, and who should sit on His right and left hand in the Kingdom, their luminous prospects met with a sudden and irretrievable reverse in the total discomfiture of their small force by the enemy. The men were completely routed and scattered; their leader captured and ignominiously executed. Thus their anticipated honours proved illusory. But matters went quite differently with the great Moses. He vanquished all his foes, and liberated the Israelites by mighty deeds from Egyptian thraldom. He made a great nation of Israel, and led them in safety through many vicissitudes, to the borders of the promised land. The Disciples believed Christ was a true prophet and teacher, but their people had many inspired prophets. He done many miracles—healed the sick, and even raised the dead; but Elijah and Elisha done the same. As a prophet, He ranked high in their estimation, but he had disappointed their dearest hopes in not effecting the liberty of the Jewish nation, and establishing a powerful kingdom. *Now, we ask,* upon what principle of expediency—Sacred or Profane—did the Disciples, or any other Jew, prefer Christ before Moses, if He did not rise from the dead?

Moses delivered them from the hand of the oppressor, founded their kingdom, and made their laws; while Christ condemned their rulers, despised their laws, and founded nothing for them, but on the contrary, was adjudged a dangerous man to their nation, and put to death as a transgressor. Why, then, should any Jew esteem Christ worthy of more honour than Moses? This mystery can only be accounted for by the resurrection of Christ from the dead, as they testify themselves. His victory was spiritual; He conquered and overcome death, the king of terrors; led captivity captive, and gave spiritual gifts to His people. Moses had been instrumental in giving the Jews a goodly heritage, the Jerusalem, which was then in bondage with her children; but by the victory and resurrection of Christ, He brought his servants to Mount Zion, the city of the living God, and to an innumerable company of Angels, where they have spiritual food of the hidden manna, and drink from the wells of salvation. Hence, with propriety, the Disciples could assert the superiority of Christ over Moses, and worship Him as divine. For now is Christ risen, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

What earthly object could the Disciples have in view, to report Christ risen from the dead, if it was not so? Would a collusion be held by so many, of no possible utility, at the risk of their lives? Some were men of families, and all of them had relatives and connections, to disgrace and bring into jeopardy. And let it be remembered, the testimony of these men are not alone in this matter. Eye witnesses of the gentler sex is involved. It was a female who first seen and reported Christ risen from the dead. A company of women went to the grave and found it empty, when another one seen two angels at the grave, and, turning round, seen and spoke with Christ himself. Then did a number of men and women, some of them fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, conspire together to propagate an unmitigated falsehood, of no possible expediency, but on the contrary, at the peril of their lives. To believe that a mixed company of both sexes could unite to disseminate a mischievous lie, with the blood stains of Calvary, and ignominious fate of Christ before their eyes, is too great a stretch of credulity for any sensible man or woman. But if these people were

such flagrant liars, that the penalties of torture and death had no terror for them, how could they put confidence in each other to form a society? Why did they not betray one another for gain, and expose the unholy compact? Promiscuous companies of such characters never did continue faithful to each other, never could, nor never will.

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If the story of the resurrection of Christ was false, it could not have been started in a heathen country, for it would have interfered with interests, offices and trades, such as the manufacture and traffic in idols and gods; and they could readily have sent to Judea for evidence to refute the whole thing. Nero, a Roman Emperor, set the city of Rome on fire, about thirty years after the crucifixion, and charged it upon the Christians, to get them destroyed. Palestine was under his dominion, and intercourse was frequent. Why did he not get evidence from Jerusalem, to expose the falsehood, and protect his subjects from such a mischievous error?—Because he could'nt.

If the resurrection of Christ is a sheer fabrication, which of the Disciples was the author of it. They could not all speak at once. Whoever it was that invented the fiction, and succeeded in persuading the others to believe it, and maintain it to the death, must have been a greater man than Christ himself, for He failed to inspire them with such courage for the pure truth, without any lie, and if the story originated with the women, it don't alter the fact. We can discover nothing in their Church organizations, or Government, to warrant the belief that any one of the women, or men either, held any such controlling influence over the others. The only Disciple that could reasonably be supposed to have any special authority over the others, was Peter, their spokesman, to whom the keys were given; but this peculiar favor don't seem to have conferred the office of ruler upon Peter, to whom the others should render account, for the apostolic equality of the company was evinced by the Society holding him to a strict account for visiting the dwelling of a Gentile, and Paul snubbed him publicly for dissimulation; thus the honest Peter, above all others, cannot be held responsible for their conduct. If St. Paul had not been a persecutor of the Church—an Apostle born out

of due time—he might be supposed more amenable to the charge of exerting undue influence over the judgment of others; but his after regrets for being a destroyer of the faith, exculpates him from all blame as the founder. If the testimony of the resurrection could be traced to any one of the Disciples, or even two or three, it might cause some shadow of doubt; but when they are all found agreed and unanimous, without even one dissenting voice or seceding Disciple—both men and women testifying to the same thing—It places the matter beyond cavil.

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Whether the disciples were timid and cowardly or not, it is evident they did not feel disposed to risk their lives for the doctrines and miracles of Christ. How, then, are we to account for the great change that came over them, for they seemed not only reckless of life—braving all danger—but acted as if they desired torture and death. They came out defiantly in a new character—in a new faith, for the Gospel of the Apostles was quite another affair from the Ministry of Christ. The burden of their theme was the cross and the resurrection: for if Christ be not risen, believers are yet in their sins. This announcement was more provoking and alarming to the rulers than the censures of Christ. He denounced their apostacy from the truth, by substituting traditions and corrupt practices. But the Disciples charged the haughty rulers with the appalling crime of deicide. The authorities understood this, and had them apprehended, but when threatened, and asked if they meant to bring this man's blood or murder on their head, they obstinately refused to retract anything—verifying the worst fears of the rulers, that a reported resurrection would be a worse case than the first, referring to Christ, and so it was. The charges of Christ were of a general character, and might have been got along with, but the Disciples brought a personal charge; they flung home into the teeth of the rulers the highest and most heinous offence of felonious guilt ever known in the calendar of human crime—the murder of the Prince of Life.

Here, then, is a rebound in character to be accounted for. We have the anomaly of recreant Disciples transformed into daring, fearless Apostles; from desponding backsliders to

intrepid religious advocates; from craven-spirited cowards to undaunted champions; from doubting sceptics to confirmed believers; from the ceremonial law to the simplicity of the Gospel; from Judaism to Christianity; from Moses, the great Legislator, to Christ, the malefactor. There can be but one of two ways to decide this matter: Christ either rose from the dead, and was seen by those men, or they must have been idiots, or insane. But that they were in their right mind, and spoke the words of truth and soberness, is clearly seen by their exemplary lives—their trials and pleadings in court, when the most expert lawyers and judges failed to entrap them—their profound logical writings and public discourses.—So there can be no other alternative but to pronounce the Disciples perfectly sane, and the resurrection of Christ an accomplished fact.

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## SUMMARY.

1st. The Disciples were poor, illiterate men; they had neither wealth, power, nor persuasive eloquence, to deceive or impose upon the people, nor to organize and establish churches, or keep them together.

2nd. They were timorous men, and fled on the approach of danger. One of the most courageous trembled at the voice of a servant maid, and three times denied that he knew Him.

3rd. They did not go to another country to publish the resurrection, bnt commenced their testimony in Jerusalem—in the synagogues, where it occurred.

4th. They did not wait for the wrath and excitement of the rulers to subside, but on the third day after his death they reported Christ risen from the dead, and on the day of Pentecost, forty days after, they accused the rulers in public discourse with the murder of the Prince of Life.

5th. The most expert Courts of Judicature—torture and banishment—failed to terrify or compel them to renounce the faith. Hence the doctrine of the resurrection of Christ stands firm and immovable upon the sure rock of verified prophecy—the dying testimony of well tried martyrs, and

other unimpeachable witnesses, easy and safe to believe in, but requiring an amazing stretch of credulity for sceptics, who believe Christianity founded upon sophistry and artifice.

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Yet Michael, the Archangel, when contending with the DEVIL about the BODY of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke thee," Jude 9. The *beast* was taken, and with him the *false prophet* that wrought miracles before him, these both were cast *alive* into a lake of fire, burning with brimstone, Rev. 19, 20, And the DEVIL that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and false prophet ARE, and shall be tormented day and night, forever and ever, Rev. 20, 10.

The resurrection was the last link in the chain of predicted events connected with the mission of Christ at the first advent. It required this miracle to fulfill the prophecy, and convince the doubting Disciples. But after the outpouring of the holy spirit on the day of Pentecost, we hear no more of the literal body of Christ, the church excepted. St. Paul says, the first Adam was made a living soul, but the last Adam was made a qickening spirit; and agreeable to this view he tells us that last of all Christ was seen of him also on his way to Damascus, as of one born out of due time; no human body was visible, but an exceeding great brightness, too intense for the natural sight, which smote him with blindness. Hence he says, Though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we Him no more after the flesh. Christ being the first fruits of them that slept, like Him the great harvest of believers will have a glorified celestial body—not a terrestrial, for flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. God the Father is a spirit, and Christ the Son is a quickening spirit, and we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. Know ye not that the saints—the heavenly—shall judge the world.